COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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March 31, 2004

The Honorable John W. Snow Secretary of the Treasury United States Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am troubled by a report in today's *Wall Street Journal* detailing the use of Treasury Department resources and employees to analyze Senator John F. Kerry's tax proposals. While it is encouraging to see such a speedy analysis, the story is a bit ironic given that in 2001, Treasury stonewalled Congress on the details of President Bush's \$1.6 trillion tax cut. In that case, Treasury officials refused for weeks to release a "distribution analysis" of the tax package, relenting only under intense pressure and even then withholding critical data. Prior to 2001, Treasury had traditionally released a complete and timely distribution analysis.

Treasury has a responsibility to provide Congress and the American people with impartial information on the impact of various tax policies. I am hopeful that the Treasury Department will remain non-partisan on this and future issues. However, now that Treasury has chosen to release an analysis of Senator Kerry's tax plan, I am requesting that it finally provide Congress, three years after the fact, a complete analysis of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts.

Sincerely,

Rahm Emanuel
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Member of Congress

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